

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Public Reprimand)
of the Educators Certificate of)
John R. Young)
Certificate # 143556)

**CONSENT ORDER
OF PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on May 14, 2008. On January 2, 2008, the State Department of Education (Department) sent a notice of the possible action against his South Carolina Educators Certificate (certificate) to Mr. John R. Young by certified mail, restricted delivery, and return receipt requested. Mr. Young received this notice as evidenced by a signed postal receipt dated January 10, 2008. On January 10, 2008, Mr. Young sent a letter to the Department stating that he wished to waive his right to a hearing. Mr. Young has proposed to resolve this matter without a hearing by agreeing to the following terms: (1) a public reprimand will be issued by the State Board, (2) this public reprimand will be reported to all school districts in South Carolina with the grounds listed as "unprofessional conduct," and (3) this order will be maintained as a public record in the Office of General Counsel of the Department. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to issue a Consent Order of Public Reprimand on the terms set forth above.

Accepted:

John R. Young
Initial Here

Date:

4-24-08

John R.
Young
#143556

FINDINGS OF FACT


Mr. Young holds a valid professional South Carolina educator certificate in French and Media Specialist, and has over twelve years of teaching experience. He has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. He was employed by Florence County School District Three (District) for the 2007-2008 school year as a Media Specialist at the Robert E. McNair Middle School (School). On September 27, 2007, Superintendent Wright wrote a letter to Mr. Young notifying him that she would recommend to the Board of Trustees that Mr. Young be terminated from employment with the District. Superintendent Wright informed Mr. Young that he demonstrated a serious lack of professionalism and good judgment and that he blatantly disregarded the policies of the District. Mr. Young resigned from his employment, effective September 27, 2007, following an investigation into concerns that he had used profanity, made derogatory remarks, and threatened to harm the principal, all in the presence of colleagues.

On September 13, 2007, Principal David Laws informed Mr. Young of a scheduling change. Mr. Young became very angry about the change and expressed his point of view in the hallway with co-workers. On September 14, 2007, Mr. Young used profanity and made unprofessional remarks about the principal and other staff members.

Mr. Young apologized to the co-workers and wrote a letter of apology to the principal telling him that the news that he would have two broadcast classes instead of one class greatly upset him because he had been working very hard on the media center, trying to build a collection that would encourage a love of reading in the students. He stated he was tremendously upset when an additional period of time was being taken from his efforts.

Mr. Young has expressed remorse that this incident occurred and is voluntarily participating in anger management counselling. He has agreed to accept this Public Reprimand on the conditions outlined above.

Accepted:

 Here

Date:

4-24-08

John R.
Young
#143556

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Regs. (Supp. 2006). The Board finds that the substantial evidence presented supports its conclusion that just cause does not exist to suspend or revoke Mr. Young's certificate; however, cause does exist for a Public Reprimand of Mr. Young's conduct. Accordingly, the Board issues this Consent Order of Public Reprimand as set forth above.

South Carolina State Board of Education


Al Simpson, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
May 14, 2008

I, John R. Young, SC Educator Certificate # 143556, do hereby agree to this Order of Public Reprimand, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on Wednesday, May 14, 2008.


Signature


Date

April 24, 2008